

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7844
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USNMR SHAPE BEL
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC

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BRUSSELS FOR USEEC
USCINCEUR FOR POLAD
USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, CY
SUBJECT: LYSSARIDES AIRS DIFFERENCES WITH GOVERNMENT

1. IN MAJOR PRESS CONFERENCE JUNE 3, DR. VASSOS LYSSARIDES,
LEADER OF SOCIALIST (EDEK) PARTY, STAKED OUT POSITIONS
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IN SOME WAYS AT VARIANCE WITH GOVERNMENT'S POSITIONS.
HE SAID, INTER ALIA:
--THE LONG STRUGGLE SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED AS ALTERNATIVE
TO INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. THIS MEANS AN IMMEDIATE
RECOURSE TO UNSC AND "SUBSTANTIVE ACTIVITIES IN THE
NONALIGNED CAMP."
--EDEK IS NOT COMMITTED TO COOPERATION WITH ANY PARTY

SINCE NO COMMON PROGRAM HAS BEEN AGREED UPON; EDEK IS FREE TO PRAISE OR CRITICIZE (THE GOVERNMENT) AS IT SEES FIT.
--EDEK FAVORS SIMPLE PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION SYSTEM IN SELECTING MEMBERS OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
--EDEK HAS NEVER POSSESSED ILLEGAL WEAPONS. IT FORMERLY HELD WEAPONS ISSUED BY POLICE WITH APPROVAL OF MAKARIOS, BUT ALL THESE WEAPONS WERE COLLECTED BY THE 1974 COUP GOVERNMENT.
--CGC (THE CYPRUS BROADCASTING CORPORATION) IS HANDLED BY THE GOVERNMENT AS A "FAMILY AFFAIR" AND DOES NOT GIVE EQUAL TREATMENT TO DEVELOPMENTS IN NONALIGNED WORLD. IN NEXT MEETING OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HE WILL PROPOSE THAT PEOPLE NOT PAY TAXES (TO SUPPORT CBC).

2. COMMENT. LYSSARIDES' POSITIONS DIFFER ONLY IN DEGREE FROM THOSE OF PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU AND GOVERNMENT DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DP). GOVERNMENT, FOR EXAMPLE, IS ON RECORD AS SUPPORTING PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION, BUT WOULD PREFER SOME WEIGHTED, RATHER THAN SIMPLE, PROPORTIONAL SYSTEM WHICH WOULD FAVOR LARGER PARTIES OVER SMALLER PARTIES, SUCH AS EDEK. LYSSARIDES' OCCASIONAL AIRINGS OF DIFFERENCES WITH KYPRIANOU'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY ARE PROBABLY INTENDED TO MAINTAIN EDEK'S IMAGE AS INDEPENDENT PARTY WITH DISTINCT IDEOLOGY AND TO PERSUADE GOVERNMENT IT SHOULD NOT IGNORE EDEK POSITIONS ON ISSUES. END COMMENT.

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